

SOME NEW BOOKS.

"Echoes from the Rocky Mountains" is a stout volume with illustrations, by John W. Clampitt, containing a popular narrative of the discovery, settlement and development of the great West, together with recollections and adventurous episodes gathered on the frontiers. The book is published by Belford, Clarke & Co., and will be found entertaining, though not to be accepted as historically accurate. The author has inserted not a few stories which require to be taken with considerable allowance.

Daniel R. Goodloe has compiled, and Belford & Clarke published, "The Birth of the Republic," a resume of the histories and archival documents bearing upon the subject, and containing the resolutions, declarations and addresses adopted by the Continental Congress, the Provincial Congresses, conventions and assemblies of the county and town meetings, and the committees of safety, in all the colonies, from 1765 to 1776; together with the Articles of Confederation, a history of the formation and adoption of the Constitution, Washington's election and inauguration, a copy of the Constitution, etc. The volume is conveniently arranged for purposes of reference, and has a full index.

The "Fundamental Problems" of Dr. Paul Carus, which now appears from the press of the Open Court Publishing Co., Chicago, is an ingenious but barren study in Monism. The affection of dissent alike from supernaturalism and materialism, which is the main characteristic of this school of thought, does not denote a genuine alternative line of reasoning. The attempt to formulate a criterion of truth, moreover, must always fall, knowledge in all its phases being relative, and certainty being an attribute not bestowed upon finite beings in the only conditions of which we are able to take cognizance. There is a great deal of illusion and delusion in this kind of philosophy, and for the most part it is a waste of time.

Messrs. Frank Parsons, F. E. Crawford and H. T. Richardson put their names on the title-page of "The World's Best Books; A Key to the Treasures of Literature," published by Little, Brown & Co., Boston. Of course the books which these gentlemen consider the best will not be so accepted by everybody else. In fact, many students will be inclined to smile at the many evidences of the whimsicality of a respect for the vogue and convention which has little relation to the real merit and value of the works in too many instances. The original selections exhibit a literary taste and judgment which promise little in the way of sane and sagacious guidance, and we cannot recommend the book as a safe or adequate help to the student.

Ginn & Co., Boston, publish, in their classics for children, "The Two Great Retreats of History," that name of the Ten Thousand, and Napoleon's retreat from Moscow. Introductions and notes by D. H. M. render the text clear enough to interest all bright children.

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